



M E D I A R E L E A S E

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

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WENDY LONG, M.D., M.P.H. NAMED CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER FOR TENNCARE BUREAU

TENNCARE'S FORMER MEDICAL DIRECTOR REJOINS BUREAU

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Veteran public health physician and former TennCare medical director, Dr. Wendy Long, has been named Chief Medical Officer for the TennCare Bureau, state officials announced today.

Dr. Long currently serves as the Assistant Commissioner for the Bureau of Health Services in the state's Department of Health where she oversees the regional and county public health system in Tennessee and provides leadership and direction to a wide array of public health programs. She will assume her new duties at TennCare next month.

"Dr. Long has extensive knowledge of the TennCare program, the state's public health program initiatives and the Governor's reform plan," said TennCare Director, J.D. Hickey. "She is also highly respected by the state's medical and public health communities and by those who have worked along side her during her tenure with the state. She is a valuable addition to the Bureau's management team."

Dr. Long joined the Tennessee Department of Health in 1988 as a Medical Consultant for Maternal and Child Health and has held a variety of positions of increasing responsibility since that time. Prior to joining the Department of Health, Dr. Long served as the Medical Director for TennCare. In 1998 she also served as Acting Director of the TennCare Bureau.

Dr. Long is a past President of the Tennessee Public Health Association and was honored with that organization's Distinguished Service Award in 2002. She is past recipient of the Southern Health Association's Charles G. Jordan award for outstanding contributions to public health and, in 1997, she received the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) Special Administrator's Award for her work in the creation of a network of HIV/AIDS Centers of Excellence in Tennessee.

Dr. Wendy Long received her undergraduate and medical degrees from Ohio State University before completing a Preventive Medicine residency and the Master of Public Health program at the University of South Carolina.

TennCare is Tennessee's managed care insurance program for 1.3 million people who are poor, disabled or uninsured.

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